

September 20, 1945

Mr. Roger A. Prichard  
c/o American Legation  
Cairo, Egypt

Dear Sir:

Thank you for your letter of September 4 explaining the situation in regard to manpower and what you plan to do at the various points.

For your information, I yesterday had a discussion with General Magruder and at his request sent a memorandum to him recommending that we withdraw our Communications men at Athens, Tirana, and Addis Ababa by the 1st of December. He is in accord with this but it will probably have to have the General's final approval.

In regard to Tirana, Corporal Nichols is to be let out of the Army and the State Department will employ him as a civilian and he will then be off OSS's payroll.

Generally speaking we are trying to make our first major step in the final liquidation steps by December 1 and to have the thing wound up to turn over to any centralized intelligence agency that might be formed by the Government (if one should be formed) by January 1.

Naturally, we in Communications will have the problem of dismantling our fixed installations, base stations and warehouses and the disposition of vast amounts of equipment all over the world; so it is quite likely that Major Perry and his staff here will have to be kept on for a while. This is also true of the Message Center and staff and will be true to a limited extent of our Adjutant's office in order to process the men out when they return. I have just given you this general picture believing it will help you to weigh certain decisions in the correct light with which you may be faced.

I have put my own papers into the Marine Corps for inactive duty status and am hopeful that Colonel Porter will be returning very shortly to take over from me. We are closing out "C" camp entirely next month and have already closed down Catalina training area.

You will undoubtedly hear directly from the Director's office or from General Magruder through Colonel Aldrich in regard to the withdrawing of our men from Athens and Addis by December 1. I am sending a confirming wire to Huston in regard to pulling Nicholas out of Tirana.

kindest regards to you and thanks for the fine and sound job you are doing.

Very sincerely yours,

Frederic A. Willis  
Major, USMER